

## WILSON SNIDER.

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APRIL 11, 1904 —Ordered to be printed.

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Mr. ALGER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

### REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 4056]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4056) granting an increase of pension to Wilson Snider, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

The House report is as follows:

Mr. Snider, now 64 years of age, served as a private in Company B, Twelfth West Virginia Infantry, from August 14, 1862, to June 16, 1865, when honorably discharged.

He never applied for pension under the general law, but is now pensioned under the act of June 27, 1890, at \$12 per month for total disability, the result of rheumatism and injury to left hand.

When last examined, on February 18, 1891, the board of surgeons found his left hand to be deformed and crippled, the ring and little fingers being down upon the palm from complete ankylosis of the proximal and middle joints; that the hand was in a far worse condition than if all the fingers were removed, the grasp of the hand destroyed, etc.

Medical testimony filed with your committee shows that he is badly crippled in both hands; that the middle and ring fingers of one hand are flexed and drawn tightly into the palm of the hand, from which they can not be raised, rendering the hand useless in the way of doing labor of any kind; that the other hand was injured by an accident in a tin mill, was fearfully torn and mangled, the bone of the back of the hand broken, requiring the removal of a portion of the bone, thus making that hand also practically useless and disabling him from the performance of any labor.

Other proof filed shows that he has no property and no means of support except the pension of \$12 per month.

The statement of the beneficiary, filed with your committee, sets forth that he was in the ranks from the first shot on Fort Sumter to the setting of the sun on Appomattox; that he is disabled from doing any work in self-support, and is not even able to dress and undress himself without assistance.

The soldier served faithfully for three years, is poor, and is now so crippled in both hands as to be unable to labor or to dress and undress himself without aid.

Under these circumstances an increase of his pension to \$30 per month is in line with many precedents.

The passage of the bill is therefore recommended.

